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Security Council

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Letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Acting Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

Annexed hereto is the twentieth work programme for the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which covers the months from July through December 2006 (see annex).

The activities of the Committee will proceed in conformity with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1535 (2004), 1566 (2004) and 1624 (2005).

The Committee will continue to monitor Member States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), guided by the principles of cooperation, transparency, equal treatment and consistency in approach. The Committee will remain focused on promoting States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and on taking practical measures designed to enhance the counter-terrorism capacity of States. In addition, the Committee will report to the Council on how States have implemented resolution 1624 (2005).

The Counter-Terrorism Committee welcomes the support it has received from Member States, the Secretariat and international, regional and subregional organizations and appreciates the contribution of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Adamantios Th. **Vassilakis**
Acting Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

06-45653 (E) 080806

Annex

Work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (1 July-31 December 2006)

Introduction

1. In December 2005, the Security Council undertook the comprehensive review of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate required by resolution 1535 (2004). The Council endorsed the Counter-Terrorism Committee's review report (S/2005/800), which gave guidance for the work of the Committee and the Executive Directorate in the future. The present work programme builds on the guidance provided in that report. The Committee's goal is to build on the initiatives taken in the first half of 2006 in order to enhance the achievement of concrete results in the following three areas during the second half of 2006:

- The Committee will begin applying its decisions regarding the revision of the reporting regime to the Committee.
- The Committee will enhance dialogue with Member States which have indicated needs for assistance to implement resolution 1373 (2001).
- The Committee will seek to deepen its relations with international, regional and subregional organizations.

2. As reiterated in the comprehensive review report, the guiding principles of the work of the Committee are cooperation, transparency and even-handedness, as well as consistency in approach.

3. In order to enhance transparency and dialogue with the broader membership of the United Nations, the Chairman will hold regular informal briefings for Member States on the work of the Committee.

4. The Committee will be assisted in its implementation of the present work programme by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate through implementation in turn of the Executive Directorate's fifth work programme (see appendix).

5. The Committee looks forward to receiving the Executive Director's fourth semi-annual report by 1 December 2006 on how the Executive Directorate, on the basis of the policy guidance from the Committee, assists the Committee in fulfilling the goals of the revitalization process as spelled out in document S/2004/124, and how the Executive Directorate's work has enhanced States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

6. The Executive Directorate's semi-annual report will serve as an important element in the Committee's preparations for the Security Council's next comprehensive review of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate which is to take place before 31 December 2006.

Monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001)

7. The Committee, based on recommendations from the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, will work to develop standards for measuring States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

8. The Committee's recent adoption of the new preliminary implementation assessment will allow it to monitor States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) in a more comprehensive, systematic and transparent manner and will allow the Committee to develop an approach better tailored to the situation in different States. The Committee's goal is to identify the most appropriate means for enhancing States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), including possibly sending letters, paying visits to States, with their consent, engaging with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, and the like. During the second half of 2006, the Committee looks forward to applying those new tools and using them in its dialogue with States about how to enhance their implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). The Executive Directorate will prepare some 100 such preliminary implementation assessments for discussion in the Committee during the time covered by the present work programme, ensuring consistency in the analysis.

9. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will also continue to reflect on additional means to address the case of States that do not meet the requirements of resolution 1373 (2001).

10. The Committee will take stock of States late in submitting reports to it and discuss how best to address the issue, including through the use of the new tools mentioned in paragraph 8 above.

11. The Committee will continue to take into account in the course of its activities that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and that they should adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law.

12. The Committee will strengthen efforts to limit terrorists' mobility, within the framework of resolution 1373 (2001), beginning with a thematic discussion of the topic and including the invitation of relevant guest speakers or the convening of a small workshop bringing together experts from all of the relevant technical international organizations, such as the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the World Customs Organization, the International Organization for Migration and Interpol. Such discussions will focus on issues not currently covered by the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and its Monitoring Team, with an eye to eliminating duplication of effort.

Continuing effective capacity-building work

13. The Committee looks forward to regular updates from the Executive Directorate on results, in the form of improved implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), from its implementation of the technical assistance implementation plan.

14. The Committee will continue its discussions on how to ensure that visits to States upon their consent lead to enhancing the States' implementation of resolution

1373 (2001). The Committee recalls that, under the terms of resolution 1535 (2004), the purpose of the visits is to provide an opportunity to engage in a detailed discussion to monitor implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). The goal is to offer further analysis to States that are already engaged in the fight against terrorism and in the process of implementing resolution 1373 (2001) and, if necessary, to facilitate assistance to further States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). Before the visits take place, the Committee will discuss, on the basis of proposals from the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, a set of terms of reference for the visits, a proposed team composition and the proposed duration of each visit. The Committee would welcome enhanced cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and international organizations as well as with the Counter-Terrorism Action Group in regard to visits to Member States.

15. The Committee looks forward to receiving regular updates from the Executive Directorate on follow-up to visits that have already taken place.

16. If time allows, the Committee will begin preparation of an informal meeting with potential donors and assistance providers, including States that traditionally have not provided such assistance but have developed expertise that they could share with other States.

17. The Committee will continue its discussion on how to enhance cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations. The Committee would also welcome proposals from the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate that focus on the convening of regional practitioners' workshops that bring together experts from a particular region, in cooperation with the relevant regional organization, to exchange lessons learned and other information regarding a particular area of implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

18. On the basis of continued updates from the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate on its preparations for the new special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Committee will continue to discuss and draw conclusions on how to arrange a more results-oriented meeting with a view to supporting the work of organizations involved in the fight against terrorism.

19. The Committee will continue its considerations on how to develop best practices in areas of relevance to resolution 1373 (2001).

The Committee's role regarding resolution 1624 (2005)

20. The Committee will continue to encourage States that have still not reported on their implementation of resolution 1624 (2005) to do so. Furthermore, based on the reports from Member States, the Committee will report to the Council on how States have implemented resolution 1624 (2005).

Appendix

Letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

I wish to refer to paragraph 15 (f) of S/2004/124, in which the Counter-Terrorism Committee has requested the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to submit, through the Secretary-General, the programme of work of the Executive Directorate to the Plenary (see enclosure).

I should be grateful if you would bring the attached programme of work to the attention of the members of the Committee.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

Enclosure

Work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (1 July to 31 December 2006)

Introduction

1. The present document sets out the fifth work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2006. It was prepared in accordance with the relevant provisions of the report of the Committee on its revitalization (S/2004/124) and takes into account the additional tasks assigned to the Executive Directorate in the Committee's review report (S/2005/800) and the Committee's twentieth work programme. The Executive Directorate will assist the Committee in achieving concrete results in the three areas defined in its work programme and will respond to any additional requests made during the reporting period.

Monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001)

2. On an ongoing basis, the Executive Directorate will prepare, for the Committee's review, analyses of new reports received from Member States, focusing on links between specific elements of the resolution and actions taken or to be taken by States. The Executive Directorate will also continue to prepare, based on Member States' reports, monthly analyses of specific subregional or regional issues.

3. The Executive Directorate will aim to prepare by the end of 2006 new preliminary implementation assessments for approximately 130 Member States as a basis for identifying the most appropriate response for enhancing States' implementation of the resolution through the application of new tools in the Committee's dialogue with Member States. The Executive Directorate expects to complete new preliminary implementation assessments for all Member States by June 2007.

4. The Executive Directorate will continue to coordinate with the experts of the Monitoring Team established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1526 (2004) and of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) in order to maximize synergies and avoid duplication and overlap, especially with respect to technical assistance.

Continuing effective capacity-building work

5. The Executive Directorate will continue to work in accordance with the technical assistance implementation plan approved by the Committee and will provide regular updates on the progress achieved during the period covered by the fifth work programme.

6. In close cooperation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, the Executive Directorate will continue preparations for the visits to Member States that have already been approved by the Committee. The Executive Directorate expects to conduct seven of the visits by the end of 2006. It will enhance

its cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Action Group, relevant United Nations bodies and international organizations in the context of the Committee's visits.

7. The Executive Directorate will regularly update the Committee on follow-up to its previous visits to Member States and will prepare proposals on new visits for the Committee's consideration.

8. The Executive Directorate will continue to work on the development of best practices in accordance with the action plan approved by the Committee and will regularly provide progress reports.

Cooperation with donors: States and international, regional and subregional organizations

9. The Executive Directorate will regularly submit to the Committee for its consideration updates on its cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations.

10. The Executive Directorate will also carry out the following activities:

- Assist the Committee in preparation of an informal meeting with potential donors and assistance providers, including with States that traditionally have not provided such assistance but have developed expertise that they would be prepared to share with other States
- Continue preparation of a results-oriented special meeting of the Committee that would focus on enhancing dialogue with and among specialized organizations and agencies with a view to supporting the work of those organizations in the fight against terrorism
- Further develop cooperation with a number of regional and subregional organizations in Africa and Asia, in particular those prioritized by the Committee, in order to assist them in preparation and/or implementation of relevant counter-terrorism action plans
- Prepare proposals for the possible convening of regional practitioners' workshops in order to exchange lessons learned and other information regarding a particular area of implementation of resolution 1373 (2001)
- Assist the Committee in the preparation and conduct of thematic discussions on strengthening efforts to limit terrorists' mobility, within the framework of resolution 1373 (2001), including inviting experts from relevant technical international organizations.

Implementation of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005)

11. The Executive Directorate will prepare for the Committee's consideration a draft report to the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 1624 (2005), based on responses received from Member States. The Executive Directorate stands ready to respond to any additional requests of the Security Council and the Committee.

Administrative activities

12. The Executive Directorate will prepare its annual budget request as a part of the special political missions budget estimates for 2007. It will also prepare its preliminary budget report for 2006. The Executive Directorate will make its budget presentation to the members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in the last quarter of 2006 and subsequently respond to questions that may arise from the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly before the end of the year.

13. The Executive Directorate will continue to build its current database, including implementing secure components for storing sensitive or restricted information. It will also need to make a decision on possible acquisition of the TRIM records management software system, which would allow the Executive Directorate to conform with the United Nations archives and records management rules and regulations. The TRIM system would also make it possible for the staffs of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities and of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) to gain access to appropriate parts of the Executive Directorate's database.

14. The Executive Directorate will complete implementation of its physical security measures with the concurrence of the Department of Security and Safety and in conformity with the recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its management audit of 3 November 2006.

Other activities

15. The Executive Directorate will continue to participate in the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force established by the Secretary-General.

16. By 1 December 2006, the Executive Directorate will prepare and submit to the Committee, through the Secretary-General, a semi-annual comprehensive report on how it helps the Committee, with the latter's policy guidance, to achieve the goals of the revitalization process set forth in S/2004/124 and on how its work has enhanced States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

17. The Executive Director will continue to inform the Committee about his work on a monthly basis and will provide updates on Member States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) with a view to adequate follow-up on progress in the global counter-terrorism effort.

18. The Executive Directorate will continue to ensure follow-up to the Committee's decisions, monitor their implementation and evaluate the results thereof.

19. The Executive Directorate will continue to implement the communications strategy approved by the Committee and will regularly update the implementation plan by reporting on progress made in meeting the expected goals and in implementing any additional performance outcomes during the period covered by the present work programme. In particular, the Executive Directorate will take steps to complete deployment of the Committee's official website in all six official languages with a focus on Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic.

20. The Executive Directorate will help promote the participation of the Committee's Chair in several meetings with a regional counter-terrorism focus that are intended to enhance States' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), with the assistance of regional or subregional organizations as appropriate.

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Letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In Malaysia's capacity as Chair of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference, I have the honour to transmit to you the Putrajaya Declaration on the Situation in Lebanon (annex I) and the Putrajaya Declaration on the Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (annex II), which were adopted by the Special Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 3 August 2006 (see annexes).

I should be grateful if you would bring the declarations to the attention of the members of the Security Council and arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) **Hamidon** Ali
Permanent Representative of Malaysia

06-45518 (E) 100806

Annex I to the letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Putrajaya Declaration on the Situation in Lebanon adopted by the Special Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Putrajaya, Malaysia, 3 August 2006

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Turkey, and the Representatives of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Republic of Lebanon, State of Palestine, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, and Republic of Yemen, met at the Special Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference on 3 August 2006 in Putrajaya, Malaysia to discuss the situation in Lebanon. The OIC Secretary-General was also in attendance. The Meeting was chaired by the Honourable Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia as the Chairman of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference.

2. At the invitation of the Chair, we came together to demonstrate our serious concern over the grave crisis in the Middle East arising from the continuing Israeli aggression against Lebanon. We express our full support for and solidarity with the Government and people of Lebanon in their legitimate and heroic resistance against the Israeli aggression.

3. We strongly condemn the relentless Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the serious violations of the latter's territorial integrity and sovereignty and in this regard charge Israel with full responsibility for the consequences of its aggression.

4. We express our concern at the inability of the United Nations Security Council to take the necessary actions for a ceasefire and demand that the Council fulfill its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security without any further delay by deciding on and enforcing an immediate and unconditional comprehensive ceasefire. In the event of failure by the United Nations Security Council to act immediately, we call upon all OIC Member States to be united in support of the convening of a meeting of the General Assembly under Uniting for Peace, in cooperation with other Member States of the United Nations.

5. We also strongly condemn the indiscriminate and massive Israeli air strikes, in particular on the village of Qana on 30 July 2006, killing more than 60 civilians, mostly children, and the targeting of United Nations peacekeepers at the United Nations Observer post at Khiam in Southern Lebanon on 25 July 2006. In this regard, we strongly urge that a full investigation into these criminal acts perpetrated by Israel be conducted by the United Nations. The attacks and killing of innocent civilians and the destruction of houses, properties and infrastructure are a breach of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and international humanitarian law and blatant and flagrant violations of human rights.

6. We call for the immediate and unconditional release of all Lebanese detainees held by Israel.

7. We are strongly convinced that there should be no impunity for violations by Israel of international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Israel must be held accountable for all its actions. We call for the immediate convening of a special session of the United Nations Human Rights Council as well as a meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the 4th Geneva Convention to address these violations.

8. We welcome all efforts towards immediate and unconditional ending of Israeli aggression and fully support the Lebanese Government Seven-Point Plan* and stress the important role of the United Nations in this regard, underlining also the importance of the consent of all concerned parties in Lebanon on any future settlement, and all other efforts towards ending the violence and to bring about lasting peace in Lebanon.

9. We recognize the dire humanitarian situation in Lebanon and the urgent need to expedite the delivery of relief assistance to the Lebanese people, including through the immediate allowing of safe passages inside Lebanon. We demand that Israel provide unimpeded access for the delivery of such assistance. We urge the international community, especially the Member Countries of the OIC to generously contribute to current humanitarian relief efforts. In this regard, we express our deep appreciation to the countries that have contributed generously to alleviate the suffering of the people in Lebanon. We welcome the role of the UN in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and relief.

10. We note with satisfaction the efforts of OIC Member Countries, the General Secretariat and OIC Organs to provide humanitarian assistance to Lebanon and requests the OIC Secretary-General to continue to work closely with OIC Member Countries, regional and international organizations and NGOs in bringing humanitarian relief and assistance to the people affected by the conflict and facilitate the early return of displaced persons.

11. We urge the international community to support Lebanon on all levels, including through organizing a donor's conference to assist the country in facing the tremendous burden resulting from the human, social and economic tragedy which has afflicted the country in the areas of relief, reconstruction and rebuilding of the national economy.

12. We condemn the destruction of religious and historical sites in Lebanon by Israel and demand that Israel immediately stop further destruction of these sites.

13. We hold Israel responsible for the loss of lives and suffering as well as the destruction of properties and infrastructure and demand Israel to compensate the Republic of Lebanon and its people for the losses sustained resulting from Israeli aggression.

14. We agree to establish a Contact Group on the current situation in Lebanon. The Contact Group will be coordinated by Malaysia and comprise members of the OIC Troika and other interested members.

* see annex.

15. We urge all OIC Member States to be united in facing the current crisis in the Middle East. Towards this end, we reaffirm our commitment to Islamic solidarity among OIC Member States, including solidarity and support to Member States who are facing threats, as mandated in the "Ten-Year Programme of Action to Meet the Challenges Facing the Muslim Ummah in the 21st Century" adopted in Makkah in December 2005.

Putrajaya, Malaysia
3 August 2006

Annex

Seven-Point Plan by Lebanon

An immediate and comprehensive cease-fire and a declaration of agreement on the following issues:

1. An undertaking to release the Lebanese and Israeli prisoners and detainees through the ICRC.

2. The withdrawal of the Israeli army behind the Blue Line, and the return of the displaced to their villages.

3. A commitment from the Security Council to place the Shebaa Farms area and the Kfarshouba Hills under UN jurisdiction until border delineation and Lebanese sovereignty over them are fully settled. While in UN custody, the area will be accessible to Lebanese property owners there. Further, Israel surrenders all remaining landmine maps in South Lebanon to the UN.

4. The Lebanese government extends its authority over its territory through its own legitimate armed forces, such that there will be no weapons or authority other than that of the Lebanese state as stipulated in the Taef national reconciliation document.

5. The UN international force, operating in South Lebanon, is supplemented and enhanced in numbers, equipment, mandate and scope of operation, as needed, in order to undertake urgent humanitarian and relief work and guarantee stability and security in the south so that those who fled their homes can return.

6. The UN, in cooperation with the relevant parties, undertakes the necessary measures to once again put into effect the Armistice Agreement signed by Lebanon and Israel in 1949, and to insure adherence to the provisions of that agreement, as well as to explore possible amendments to or development of said provisions, as necessary.

7. The international community commits to support Lebanon on all levels, and to assist it in facing the tremendous burden resulting from the human, social and economic tragedy which has afflicted the country, especially in the areas of relief, reconstruction and rebuilding of the national economy.

Annex II to the letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Putrajaya Declaration on the Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory adopted by the Special Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Putrajaya, Malaysia, 3 August 2006

We, the Heads of State or Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Turkey, and the Representatives of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Republic of Lebanon, State of Palestine, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, and Republic of Yemen, met at the Special Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference on 3 August 2006 in Putrajaya, Malaysia to discuss the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The OIC Secretary-General was also in attendance. The Meeting was chaired by the Honourable Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia as the Chairman of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference.

2. At the invitation of the Chair, we came together out of our serious concern over the continuing Israeli occupation of Palestine and aggression in the occupied territories.

3. We strongly condemn the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands and for its unrelenting aggression against the Palestinian people, which have caused the loss of lives and destruction of properties and demand the total, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Occupied Palestinian Territories, since 1967, including East Jerusalem.

4. We further condemn Israel for the abduction and detention of Palestinian Cabinet Ministers, government officials, and other individuals and call for the immediate and unconditional release of all Palestinian detainees held by Israel.

5. We call on the United Nations Security Council to assume its responsibilities to compel Israel to respect international law and put an end to Israel's occupation and illegitimate practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including placing collective punishment and unilateral sanctions over the Palestinian people and economy, and the illegal construction of settlements and the separation wall which is aimed at confiscating and annexing Palestinian land and property and altering the demographic and geographic character of the Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

6. We commended the free and democratic Palestinian Legislative Council election, which have demonstrated the free will of the Palestinian people. In this regard, we call upon the international community to respect the outcome of the elections and to be supportive of Palestinians in exercising their rights.

7. We recognize the dire humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and the urgent need for relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation assistance. In this regard, we express our deep appreciation to the countries that

have contributed generously to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people and urge the international community to continue contributing to Palestine's rehabilitation efforts.

8. We reaffirm our commitment and support for all initiatives leading to a peacefully negotiated settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including the Quartet Performance-Based Roadmap leading to a permanent Two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as outlined in UNSC Resolution 1515 and the Arab Peace Initiative. The solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict would constitute the only guarantee for durable peace in this region.

9. We strongly urge the United Nations to convene an international conference on the Middle East to deliberate on a comprehensive, just and durable plan for the region based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, with the involvement of the Permanent Members of the Security Council and other interested parties, including OIC Member States.

10. We reiterate our commitment and support towards Palestine in achieving self-determination and establishment of a sovereign and independent Palestinian state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital and the return of Palestinian refugees, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194.

11. We urge all OIC Member States to be united in facing the current crisis in the Middle East. Towards this end, we reaffirm our commitment to Islamic solidarity among OIC Member States, including solidarity and support to Member States who are facing threats, as mandated in the "Ten-Year Programme of Action to Meet the Challenges Facing the Muslim Ummah in the 21st Century" adopted in Makkah in December 2005.

Putrajaya, Malaysia
3 August 2006

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Letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose a letter addressed to you by Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).

(*Signed*) T. Hamid **Albayati**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Iraq

06-45491 (E) 030806

Annex to the letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) is set to expire on 11 August 2006. The Government of Iraq requests an extension of the UNAMI mandate for an additional 12 months, subject to the right of the Government of Iraq to request an earlier termination.

My Government is mindful of the historic role played by UNAMI in Iraq's transition from tyranny to democracy. The original UNAMI mandate was created by the Security Council in its resolution 1500 (2003) of 14 August 2003, on the basis of your report of 17 July 2003 (S/2003/715). We are equally mindful that very shortly thereafter, on 19 August 2003, the United Nations, Iraq and the world community suffered an incalculable loss with the murder by terrorists of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Sergio Vieira de Mello, and other UNAMI officials and staff. Yet, by the following year, the United Nations, acting through UNAMI, returned to Iraq, pursuant to an expanded mandate created by the Security Council in its resolution 1546 (2004) of 8 June 2004.

At that time, the Security Council mandated UNAMI, inter alia, to play a leading role in assisting the Government and people of Iraq to complete the political process resulting in the return of constitutional government for the first time in five decades. Recognizing the continued need for UNAMI to play this role, the Security Council extended the UNAMI mandate for another year in resolution 1557 (2004) of 12 August 2004. Over the course of that year, UNAMI assisted the Interim Government to prepare for and hold Iraq's freest and fairest elections in its history, and assisted the Transitional Government in establishing the institutions for drafting a permanent constitution, as well as helping to establish other rule-of-law institutions. The importance of a continuing UNAMI role was again underscored by the Security Council, which once more extended the mandate in resolution 1619 (2005) of 11 August 2005. Of course, in resolution 1619 (2005), the Security Council underscored that the role of UNAMI in Iraq was at the behest of the elected Government of Iraq, as it pledged in paragraph 2 to review that mandate sooner should the Government of Iraq present such a request.

While the political process envisioned by the Transitional Administrative Law and endorsed by the Council in resolution 1546 (2004) has formally come to an end, there remains much work for Iraqis to do to continue to build democratic legal and political institutions, to reintroduce the rule of law and civil society, to engage in a national dialogue to build peace and security and to rebuild Iraq's shattered physical and economic infrastructure for the benefit of this and future generations of Iraqis. The Government of Iraq believes that there continues to be a vital role for UNAMI to play in assisting us to achieve these and other goals, as we work together to build a productive and prosperous Iraq at peace with itself and its neighbours.

To these ends, and our need for United Nations active engagement to organize international assistance to the people of Iraq through an international contact group, the Government of Iraq requests an additional 12-month extension of the UNAMI mandate, subject to the right of the Government of Iraq to request an earlier termination by the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hoshyar **Zebari**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Nations S/2006/610

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Letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that under Ghana's presidency of the Security Council, an open debate on "Peace consolidation in West Africa" will be held in the Council on Wednesday, 9 August 2006.

In this regard, Ghana has prepared the attached concept paper (see annex) in order to help guide the deliberations on that occasion.

I should, therefore, be most grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nana **Effah-Apenteng**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

06-45498 (E) 030806

Annex to the letter dated 3 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Concept paper on peace consolidation in West Africa

Background

The political instability that afflicted West Africa as a result of the eruption of violent internal conflicts in Liberia (1989), Sierra Leone (1991), Guinea-Bissau (1998) and Côte d'Ivoire (2002), which were laden with serious regional implications, has for the most part subsided, creating a unique opportunity for nation building and the promotion of sustainable development.

2. According to the UN Economic Commission for Africa, more than two million people are believed to have died in these conflicts, in addition to the widespread displacement of people, the extensive damage to property and infrastructure and the illegal exploitation of natural resources to finance destructive wars. Invariably, the victims of the conflicts were predominantly civilians, with women and children bearing the brunt of the suffering. The physical and psychological scars caused by these conflicts are yet to heal fully.

3. Although Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau and Liberia have successfully undergone a transition from war to constitutional rule and Côte d'Ivoire is currently implementing a "road map" towards the same, the security situation, as has been aptly described by the Secretary-General in his recent reports on these countries, remains "stable but fragile".

4. Those West African countries that have enjoyed relative calm and stability also face threats of their own. While they have made significant progress towards consolidating democratic governance and economic reform, they are constrained by, inter alia, institutional weaknesses, slow economic recovery, low inflows of foreign direct investment, debts and skills deficiencies. The mass cross border refugee flows resulting from the years of regional instability, while ebbing, is a potential threat to security and economic stability. Consequently, the region remains vulnerable to further destabilization, unless the underlying issues that constitute a threat to peace and stability are effectively addressed. Towards a Comprehensive Coordinated Strategy for Peace: ECOWAS/Security Council.

5. It should be noted that over the years both the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Security Council have been actively engaged with addressing the question of peace and security in West Africa, both through separate initiatives and collaboratively.

6. Faced with the challenge of regional chaos, ECOWAS had to embark on a systemic search for conflict prevention and conflict management mechanisms at the risk of subjugating its primary economic focus to the military agenda. The adoption of the

ECOWAS Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security (1999) and the creation of the ECOWAS Ceasefire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) in the 1990s to intervene in Liberia and Sierra Leone were concrete examples of measures dictated by circumstances at the time. In Côte d'Ivoire, ECOWAS intervened in late 2002, laying the groundwork for the UN to take leadership of a peacekeeping operation there in 2003.

7. ECOWAS has since been progressively improving its mechanisms for dealing with conflicts and promoting peacebuilding by using a variety of tools, including making use of the good offices of the Heads of State and Government, collaboration among the heads of the armed forces of member states, traditional institutions, such as the Council of Elders and civil society.

8. In its efforts to contain violent conflicts and avert new conflagration within the framework and spirit of Chapters VI, VII and VIII of the UN Charter, ECOWAS has developed mutually-beneficial and complementary partnership with the African Union (AU) and the United Nations system. All peace agreements relating to the conflicts in West Africa have been negotiated under the co-ordinated and collaborative umbrella of ECOWAS, AU, UN and often the European Union (EU). Indeed, in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire, UN peacekeeping missions have effectively operated as progressive extensions of ECOMOG missions under this 'formula for success'.

9. In view of the financial and technical constraints confronting countries in the region, the cardinal issue of Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR), as well as capacity-building and post-conflict elections, have often been organized under the auspices of ECOWAS in collaboration with the UN.

10. It is expected that the serious integration efforts ECOWAS has embarked upon, such as the monetary union and protocols on free movement and community citizenship, will buttress peace. Its Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance has outlawed unconstitutional change of government and is meant to ensure good governance and stability. It has adopted a Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials and taken practical steps in the fight against gender inequality, youth unemployment, money laundering and terrorism through the creation of dedicated centres across the region.

11. On its part, the Security Council, as far back as 1997, requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on "The Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa". The fundamental conclusion of the report was that "The prevention of conflict begins and ends with the promotion of human security and human development. Ensuring human security is, in the broadest sense, the cardinal mission of the United Nations. Genuine and lasting prevention is the means to achieve that mission". This was reinforced subsequently in the 2004 report of The High-level Panel on Threats,

Challenges and Change, which was established by the UN Secretary-General to examine and make recommendations on our collective security system.

12. West Africa naturally benefited from this initiative when the Council in March 2002 established the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa to propose, inter alia, recommendations on the enhancement of co-operation between the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as well as with other UN agencies dealing with Africa. Additionally, it was to examine regional and cross-conflict issues that affect the Council's work on the prevention and resolution of conflict in Africa and to recommend how to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in that regard.

13. Significantly, the Council pushed for an Inter-Agency Mission of the UN to visit West Africa in October 2000, following which it undertook its own mission to the region in June 2004. It later endorsed the establishment of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) with the objective of enhancing the contribution of the UN towards the achievement of peace and security priorities in the region. In March 2004 and February 2005, the Security Council held an open meeting on "Cross-border issues in West Africa", to highlight the problems of the illicit trade and proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, mercenaries, refugees, etc. as an important dimension of regional instability which must be resolved.

14. Gradually, as democracy continues to take hold in many West African states, there has been an improvement in peace and stability. This trend will continue as more states in the region resort to democratic rule. In view of this positive development, West Africa is on the verge of attaining general peace for the first time in a generation.

Open Debate

15. It is against this backdrop that the Open Debate is being held at the Ministerial level to afford members of the Security Council and the wider membership of the United Nations, the opportunity to articulate their views and propose concrete and realistic recommendations to enable the Security Council formulate definitive measures spanning the peace consolidation spectrum of conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

16. The debate will be chaired by Honourable Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo (MP), Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ghana.

17. Among the broad cross-cutting themes relating to peace consolidation likely to be addressed during the debate, the outcome of which should provide an important contribution to the work of the newly established Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), are the following:

(i) How do we manage conflicts to prevent further escalation and achieve expedited resolution?

(ii) What measures should be taken to prevent the outbreak of new conflicts?

(iii) Given that several peace agreements have collapsed within five years, how do we prevent the relapse into conflict of countries emerging from conflict?

(iv) How can we promote human security and economic development in order to sustain peace in the region?

(v) the development of a more complementary relationship between ECOWAS/AU/UN and other regional organizations.

18. In dealing with these themes, it is expected that the following cardinal issues pertaining to peace consolidation may be considered:

(i) strengthening of national institutional capacity - security sector reform, judicial reform, strengthening public institutions;

(ii) good governance - checking corruption, promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law, conduct of free and fair elections, and the implementation of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM);

(iii) the promotion of health and education;

(iv) justice and reconciliation - the use of truth and reconciliation commissions;

(v) transparent and accountable management of the economy and natural resources, including the establishment of fiscal and expenditure oversight bodies;

(vi) mechanisms for preventing and managing conflicts: early warning systems, using the good offices of the UN Secretary-General, the Security Council, eminent persons, traditional authorities, sanctions, civil society and NGOs;

(vii) peacekeeping;

(viii) DDR, including tailoring programmes to meet the needs of Special Groups like female ex-combatants, child soldiers and the disabled;

(ix) resettlement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees;

(x) the need for an overall country strategy framework to deal with post-conflict recovery and reconstruction;

(xi) the mobilization of resources and the role of the international community, and the establishment of monitoring and evaluation systems to assess the performance of both local and external actors;

(xii) the key policy tension in the post-conflict period appears to be between economic efficiency and political stability. Coordination in the post-conflict reconstruction system is crucial to ensure coherence;

(xiii) as some intra-state conflicts in West Africa can be interlinked with other regional conflicts, it may be necessary to deal with cross-border issues like the presence of mercenaries, smuggling, customs problems and control of small arms and light weapons;

(xiv) strengthening international cooperation between the UN/ECOWAS/AU and other regional organizations, bearing in mind the decision of the world leaders at the 2005 Summit to support the development and implementation of a ten-year plan for African capacity-building in peacekeeping;

(xv) What should be the role of the PBC, and how does the PBC cooperate with the Security Council?